



**SUNSHINE  
MODELS**

34.10 - 34.24

*Fruit Growers System*

# 1950s Tongue in Groove

## War Time Reefer Rebuilding and Re-lettering



The Fruit Growers System War Emergency reefer kits are now available in the 1950s WFEX and FGEX tongue in groove rebuilding and the WFEX, FGEX and BREX 1950s lettering.

The exigencies of World War II produced yet another unique design of freight car: the Fruit Growers System war emergency reefer. Designed to limit the use of steel sheet, the car borrowed from the proprietary FGEX riveted steel side reefer, replacing steel side sheets with plywood or, in one case, tongue in groove siding. The paneled steel roof, Dreadnaught ends and welded steel underframe from the design remained.

The FGEX welded underframe included a notably long side sill that extended past and under the steel ends. The ends were notched to receive this elongated side sill and poling pockets were installed in the resulting alcove. Further, the left side grabs for the wood sided cars were 3'2" long.

Following World War II, the three companies made a concerted effort to replace the plywood siding with tongue in groove. This process occurred over a period of years, leaving some plywood cars running into the Fifties.

Also, beginning in 1950, the Fruit Growers System simplified its car lettering and began to apply it to cars when repainted. Gone was the black background for the lightweight values, and dimensional data was abbreviated. The new lettering conformed more to the standards of other systems.

In 1956 there were 428 standard FGEX cars and 49 double deck cars, so that 477 of the original 500 remained. The BREX had 289 cars remaining from the original 298. Of the 225 WFEX cars, 215 were still in service.

Etched brass parts are designed to give excellent detail and improve color separation are enclosed. Included are ladders, both round and square fan plates, fan housing, bracket grabs, hatch rests, hatch levers and brake step.

The Sunshine kits are vacuum cast in gray urethane. Full instructions, a Prototype Data Sheet, proprietary decals designed for the cars beginning with 1950 and special FGE System chalkmarks are included, along with all detailing parts (except trucks and couplers). The correct trucks are available separately.

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- \_\_\_ #34.20 BREX War Time tongue in groove reefer w/ etched brass detailing parts, three-color logo, '50s decals (1950-60s), \$44
- \_\_\_ #34.21 WFEX War Time plywood reefer with etched brass detailing parts, '50 decals with GN logo (1950-60s), \$44
- \_\_\_ #34.22 WFEX War Time tongue in groove reefer with etched brass detailing parts, '50 decals with GN logo (1950-60s), \$44
- \_\_\_ #34.23 FGEX War Time plywood reefer with etched brass detailing parts, '50 decals (1950-60s), \$44
- \_\_\_ #34.24 FGEX War Time tongue in groove reefer with etched brass detailing parts, '50 decals (1950-60s), \$44
- \_\_\_ Trucks #TP 40 Black plastic ARA cast side frame, non-sprung trucks with non-magnetic metal wheelsets, \$5

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Add \$4.00 for shipping per five kits in U.S. ( MO residents add 6.675% ), Canada \$15.88 for six kits

**Sunshine Models Box 4997 Springfield MO 65808-4997**

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